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## Johnson Tells CIA It's Best

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By United Press International

The Johnson administration has lauded the Central Intelligence Agency as the "best in the world."

In a letter commemorating the 20th anniversary of the CIA, President Johnson told the agency's employees yesterday that "America relies on your constant dedication to the duty on your commitment to the democratic ideal."

He said 20 years ago the United States did not have a broad-scale intelligence service worthy of the name, but "today it has a strong and vital one—the best in the world."

Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey spoke to employees at the CIA building in nearby Langley. He told them they were responsible for a "much broader knowledge of the world... and I believe that the world is a better place for the people on this earth, because there has been, there is, and will continue to be a CIA."

He said the CIA is doing work of vital importance and "I want you to know that some of us in the government appreciate this and what is more, the American people appreciate it."

"You cannot expect in a free society to be immune from criticism, but I am glad that you are being criticized occasionally," Humphrey said. "It relieves me, and my, what it can do to help the President, who has more criticism than his fair share."